



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PRODUCTION – NOVEMBER 2015

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Based on November 1 conditions, **corn** production in Colorado is forecast at 151.7 million bushels, up 3 percent from last year's 147.5 million bushels, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. The 960,000 acres expected to be harvested for grain this year are unchanged from the October forecast but 50,000 below the 1.01 million acres harvested a year ago. Corn yield is estimated at 158.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the October 1 forecast but 12 bushels above last year's final yield. As of November 1, Colorado's corn crop condition was rated 3 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Corn harvested for grain was 45 percent complete, compared with 59 percent last year and the 5-year average of 73 percent.

Sorghum production in 2015 is forecast at 14.0 million bushels, up 67 percent from the 8.40 million bushels harvested last year. Growers expect to harvest 350,000 acres this year, unchanged from the October forecast but up 70,000 from the 280,000 acres harvested last year. Average yield is forecast at 40.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from the October 1 forecast but up 10 bushels from last year. As of November 1, Colorado's sorghum crop condition was rated 3 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 67 percent good, and 3 percent excellent. Sorghum harvested for grain was estimated at 55 percent complete, compared with 39 percent last year and the 5-year average of 51 percent.

Sugarbeet production in Colorado is forecast at 913,000 tons, down less than 1 percent from the 917,000 tons produced in 2014. Growers expect to harvest 26,700 acres this year, compared with 29,300 a year ago. Yields are expected to average 34.2 tons per acre, up 1.9 tons per acre from the October 1 forecast and up 2.9 from last year's yield of 31.3 tons per acre. As of November 1, harvest of sugarbeets was estimated at 65 percent complete, compared with 83 percent last year and the 5-year average of 84 percent.

Fall potato growers in Colorado produced an estimated 22.7 million hundredweight of potatoes this year, a decrease of 519,000 hundredweight from last year's crop. Fall potatoes produced in the San Luis Valley totaled 19.8 million hundredweight compared with 20.5 million hundredweight produced last year. Fall potatoes grown in all other areas in Colorado totaled 2.9 million hundredweight compared with 2.7 million hundredweight last year. Average yield, at 385 hundredweight per acre, decreased 3 hundredweight per acre from the combined yield attained last year. The harvested area, estimated at 58,900 acres is down from the 59,800 acres harvested last year.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Corn production is forecast at 13.7 billion bushels, up less than one percent from the October forecast, but down 4 percent from last year's record production. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 169.3 bushels per acre, up 1.3 bushels from the October forecast but 1.7 bushels below the 2014 average. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 80.7 million acres, unchanged from the October forecast but down 3 percent from 2014.

Sorghum production is forecast at 594 million bushels, up 4 percent from last month and up 37 percent from last year. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 7.65 million acres, unchanged from October but up 19 percent from 2014. Based on November 1 conditions, yield is forecast at a record 77.7 bushels per acre, up 2.7 bushels from last month and up 10.1 bushels from last year.

Production of **sugarbeets** for the 2015 crop year is forecast at 35.2 million tons, up 1 percent from the previous forecast and up 12 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 1.14 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast but down slightly from 2014. Expected yield is forecast at 30.8 tons per acre, an increase of 0.4 ton from the previous forecast and up 3.4 tons from last year.

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Production of **fall potatoes** for 2015 is forecast at 409 million cwt, up 1 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 946,000 acres, is up 2 percent from the previous year. The average yield forecast, at 432 cwt per acre, is down 2 cwt from last year's yield.

For a full copy of the *Crop Production* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.